

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method for selectively deleting messages received by a radio telephone, the method being effected by the telephone and the method comprising:

detecting at the telephone when the telephone has moved from a previous coverage area to a current coverage area;

selectively ~~accessing~~ obtaining a set of coverage area specific messages, received when the telephone was in the previous coverage area and stored in a memory associated with of the telephone, in response to said detecting, ~~the coverage area specific messages being from a set of messages received when the telephone was in the previous coverage area;~~ and

automatically deleting the coverage area specific messages from the memory in response to said detecting.

2. (original) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the selectively obtaining is effected by only selecting messages that are presumed to be generic messages sent by a service provider of the previous coverage area.

3. (original) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the selectively obtaining is effected by only selecting messages sent from one or more telephone numbers that do not correspond with any numbers stored in a telephone book database of known personal numbers, inserted by a user, that are identifiable by the telephone.

4. (original) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the selectively obtaining is effected by only selecting messages that have a content presumed to include generic advertising.

5. (original) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 4, wherein the content may be presumed to include generic advertising by searching each of the messages for selected words.

6. (original) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, selectively obtaining may include requesting confirmation from a user that a message is one of the coverage area specific messages.

7. (original) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the obtaining is effected after arrival of the telephone at the current coverage area.

8. (original) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the obtaining is effected before the telephone leaves the previous coverage area.

9. (original) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detecting is characterized by detecting that the telephone has moved from the previous coverage area to the current coverage area when there is a change in a service provider cell communicating with the telephone.

10. (original) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detecting is characterized by detecting that the telephone has moved from the previous coverage area to the current coverage area when the telephone moves from one cell to another cell or from one country to another country.

11.(new) A method for selectively deleting messages received by a radio telephone, the method being effected by the telephone and the method comprising:

detecting at the telephone that the telephone has moved from a previous coverage area to a current coverage area; and

automatically deleting, by the telephone and from a memory associated with the telephone, at least one coverage area specific message received when the telephone was

in the previous coverage area in response to said detecting the telephone has moved from the previous coverage area to the current coverage area.

12. (new) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 11, wherein generic messages sent by a service provider of the previous coverage area are identified and automatically deleted.

13. (new) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 11, wherein messages sent from telephone numbers that are not stored in a telephone book database of the telephone are identified prior to automatically deleting.

14. (new) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 11, wherein messages that have a content presumed to include generic advertising are identified and automatically deleted.

15. (new) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 14, wherein content including generic advertising is identified by searching each of the messages for selected words.

16. (new) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 11, further including the step of requesting confirmation from a user that a message is a coverage area specific message that can be deleted.

17. (new) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 11, further including the step of detecting a change in a service provider cell communicating with the telephone, and responsive thereto detecting that the telephone has moved from the previous coverage area to the current coverage area when there is a change in a service provider cell communicating with the telephone.

18. (new) A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 11, further including the step of detecting that the telephone has moved from one country

to another country and responsive thereto identifying that the telephone has moved from a previous coverage area to the current coverage area when the telephone moves.

19.(new) A radio telephone, comprising:
a receiver;
a memory for storing messages received by the receiver; and
a controller coupled to the memory and the receiver, the controller detecting at the telephone that the telephone has moved from a previous coverage area to a current coverage area, and automatically deleting, by the telephone and from the memory associated with the telephone, coverage area specific messages received when the telephone was in the previous coverage area in response to said detecting the telephone has moved from the previous coverage area to the current coverage area.